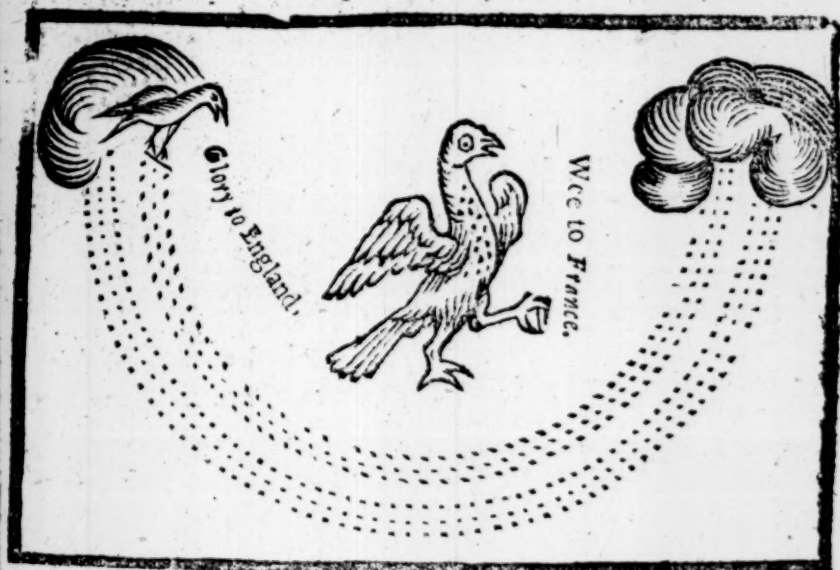


719. 2. 80.
The Embassadour of P E A C E:

BEING A
Wonderful, but true Relation
Of a *WHITE DOVE*
Seated on a Rain-Bow,

That appears to several Persons, in the Parish of *Peter's*
Carlisle; particularly to Mrs. *Isabel Fletcher*, (Wife
to Mr. *Fletcher*, Apothecary) To whom it relates
Strange and Wonderful things, concerning the state of Affairs in
this Nation; very positively asserting *Universal Peace* and *Plenty*
to all Christendom, the ensuing Year 1697. proving the *Sub-*
version of the *French King*, from several Texts of Scripture;
especially from the last Verse of the 31st. *Psalm*.

To which is added,
Its Disputes with several Ministers; as also its pious *Prayers* and
Exhortations to all the People that daily far and near flock to see it



The Truth of All which is Confirm'd by the Testimony of Two Let-
ters, the One, sent to the Reverend Dr. *Simpson*; and the
other writ by the Worshipful Justice *Patrickson*.

Tydings of Joy, Peace, and Plenty, &c.

THe following Relation, I am going to make, is a Subject of such marvellous and Supernatural Astonishment, that I dare not pretend to fathom it, by the Line and Plummets of humane Reason. *The Works of God are unsearchable, and past Man's finding out.* It is beyond all contradiction, that the *Infinite Being* has opened the Mouth of dumb Irrational Creatures, *Birds and Beasts*, and by them check'd the incorrigableness of wicked Man; the Example of *Balaam's Ass* manifests One; and, to go no further, our Modern Speaking *Raven* (a Miracle yet fresh in our Memories) confirms the Other. I must confess, the ensuing Narratiye, infinitely creates a much greater Admiration; *First*, As its Appearance is in the likeness of a *Dove*, that once Representative (If I may so say) of the *Holy Ghost*: And, *Secondly*, As it was seated on a *Rainbow*, That *Token of the Covenant* between God and *Man*, *That the Waters should no more become a Flood to destroy all Flesh.*

History informs us of the Delusion of *Mahomet's Pidgeon*, which indeed only whisper'd him in the Ear; but this *Dove*, I am now speaking of, talks frequently, Holyly, Audibly, and Publickly. I cite this not to persuade any to ascribe Sanctity to this present Prodigy; For why may not the Grand Deluder of Mankind, (that Prince of the Air, whose Power and Policy is great) impose such a *pia fraus*; that



that under the likeness of *harmless Innocence*, he may more secretly devour: *False Christs, and false Prophets* (saith the Holy Evangelist) *shall arise, and shall shew Wonders to seduce, if it were possible, even the Elect.* Therefore I heartily recommend to my Readers that Excellent Advice of the Apostle, *Try the Spirit, whether it be of God or not.* And this brings me to my premised Narrative, which (for the avoiding any Mistakes) I set down in the very Words of the Reverend Divine himself.

*Mr. Knowl's (Minister of St. Peters Carlile)
Letter to the Reverend Doctor Simpson.*

Reverend Sir,

THE intimate Love and Friendship, contracted from our Infancy, and hitherto continued, by an uninterrupted Correspondence; together with the prying Curiosity (I have ever observed in you) into things Supernatural, obliged me to send you this Strange Prodigy, the manner whereof take as follows;

On *Friday* the 23d. of *October* last, a little after Sun-setting the Wife of *John Fletcher* an Apothecary in *St. Peter's Carlile*, a Woman of good and pious disposition, being set in her Chamber in a Melancholy thinking posture, with her Child in her Arms; felt on a sudden an unusual Warmness about her Head, and, immediately after, discern'd the likeness of a *White-Dove*, as it were upon a *Rain-bow*: whereupon she presently fell down into a *Trance*: But, at last, recovering her self, she heard these Words uttered by it, in a shrill and powerful Sound, *Isabel! be not afraid,*

afraid, for I am a Messenger sent from God, to proclaim Glad-tydings to all England: yea, even to all those that sincerely Love our Lord Jesus Christ; And so, bidding her attend in the same place next Evening, it for that time disappeared.

The Astonished Woman acquainted her Husband with what had happened: whereupon he with several others attended with her the Hour appointed; to whom the Dove or Spirit appear'd, as aforesaid; Exhorting them to Prayer, Piety, and Repentance; for that God was angry; that his Vials of Wrath were ready prepared to be poured out on all the Children of Disobedience; that Rome had drunk deep of the Blood of the Martyrs, and therefore must drink deep of the Cup of God's Wrath; That Peace and Plenty should environ all Christendom; and that the present disturber of the Welfare thereof, shall in the Year Ninety and Seven, be cut off from among the Children of Men: Moreover it added, that the Kingdom of Christ should shortly be Establish'd throughout the whole World: and that of Satan's totally subverted and broken into Confusion. It encouraged them, out of several portions of the Holy Scriptures, to persevere in a Godly-Life to the End, and then they should be saved; and so, with a Prayer to God, for his Blessing on them, dismiss'd them for that time.

It daily appears to the Woman, and speaks very Comfortable Sayings to her: And, as it was once repeating of the Thirty First Psalm, it said, Now comes the Minister, let him tell thee what the meaning of this Psalm is; which suitably did agree with my coming into the House. But I, not answering its expectation, it began to expound the whole Psalm in general; particularly applying the 24th. verse to the English Nation; the Words are these, Be of good Courage, and He shall strengthen your
Hearts

Hearts, a'l ye that hope in the Lord. After this it began largely to expostulate with the Woman, and to enjoin her several Duties: Whereupon, I desired her to consider, That it was not a Good and True Spirit; that she should refuse to Pray at his Command: For that, under such Holy Representations, it might seduce her and others from the *Word of God* and his *Grace*: That we had *Moses* and the *Prophets* whom we should and must hear: That *God* had not set *Spirits* before us to be our Instructors; but that the Soul was in greatest Danger when the Devil, under the Prætext of *Innocency*, appears to us: these Arguments and a great many more I urged to her; admonishing her and others, both in private and publick, to give no Credence to it: but to arm themselves with unfeigned *Prayers*, and firm *Faith* in *Christ Jesus* against the Devil and all his Adherents: But the *Dove* like Spirit opposed my Sayings, telling them, *That it was not a damned Spirit, but a Messenger sent from God.*

It is so commonly seen, that it is known to every Body in the Neighbourhood; and appears frequently in the daytime: and when Three, Four, or more are Present it never fails to speak with a clear and audible Voice.

On *Sunday* the 25th. of *October* last, as the Woman was going into the Cellar, she bid the Boy go with her, for she was afraid; the Spirit answered, *O ye of little Faith! why are ye so fearful?*

It shews it self also in the Neighbours Houses, exhorting to Repentance. At a certain time, being present, with some others, I conjured it, by the *Holy Trinity*, to tell me what it was, and wherefore it came. It presently replied, in the
same

same manner as afore, *A Messenger, from God, sent for the Conversion of Sinners.* And so, for that time vanished.

Here is such a numerous Concourse of People that the Town cannot contain them, and if we should countenance them, I am apt to think, they would set it up as an Idol or Oracle; for as much as several repair hither to ask Council in doubtful Matters.

I would desire your Opinion, whether you think it may be the effect of a *Good Angel*? Or whether it may be a Phantom or Delusion of Satan, permitted as a Tryal of our *Faith*, because we hear not *Moses* and the *Prophets*: I will say no more, only desire your Answer by the next. And in the mean time subscribe my self,

Your obsequious Servant

Edw. Knowls.

Altho' this single Testimony, under the hands of such Reverend Persons, is sufficient to evince the truth of this wonderful *Apparition*; yet to remove all Scruples we have hereunto adjoyned another Letter, sent by a Worshipful Justice of Peace to Mr. S—ly, near the *Royal Exchange*, his intimate Friend and Correspondent.



Justice Patrickson's Letter.

SIR,

I cannot omit this opportunity of Acquainting you with a wonderful *Apparition*, that is here amongst us, to the exceeding Amazement of Thousands of People, *viz.* A *White Dove*, seated on a *Rain-bow*, that daily appears to Mrs. *Fletcher*, an Eminent *Apothecary's* Wife. It talks with her very much out of the Scriptures; applying especially these Places, *The Seed of the Woman shall bruise the Serpents Head. The Blood of Jesus, &c.*

It has openly declared, That unless they speedily Repented, *God* would bring great Calamities upon them; for that *now the Ax is laid to the Root of the Tree*. It foretells the total Subversion of the *Ottoman* Empire in a very small space of time; and a signal Victory over the *French* in 97. and that *Peace* and *Tranquility* will thereupon ensue. It also speaks of the Affairs between *France* and the *Duke of Savoy*.

It delivers its Answers after a mysterious and ambiguous manner, as did the Oracles of old. The common People take it to be an *Angel* sent from *God*, but a Bishop and other of the Clergy hold it for a Devil. As for me I shall forbear to pass my Judgment, till it appear what manner of a *spirit* it is.

Yours,

HEN. PATRICKSON.

POSTSCRIPT

You shall not fail of having exact notice of all ensuing Material Passages relating to this wonderful Prodigy ; for it is so far from any likelyhood of Ceasing, that it daily appears, every day more visible than other, freely Answering all Questions whatsoever-

Several Atheists flock thither, and are fully convinc'd of the Power of an Almighty Being : And several eminent Persons have employed their utmost Skill and Learning to find out, whether it might proceed from some Natural Cause, or no? but all in vain. So that all in general conclude, that it is no less than the Finger of God.

Licensed according to Order.

London, Printed and Sold by J. Bradford, in New-street, without Bishopsgate, near Hand-Ally. 1696.

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